

### **Education**

*Ph.D. Student*, University of Minnesota, Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior

- Entered in Fall 2007; Expected completion in Spring 2012
- Advisor: Sharon Jansa

*A.B.*, Magna cum laude, Washington University, May 2007

- Major/Minor: Biology/Psychology

### **Grants**

Society of Systematic Biologists Graduate Research Award, 2008: \$1,221

Dayton Research Award, 2008: \$1,500

American Society of Mammalogists Grant-In-Aid of Research, 2008: \$1,500

### **Publications**

Jansa, S.A., T.C. Giarla, and B. Lim. (2009). "The Phylogenetic Position of the Rodent Genus *Typhlomys* and the Geographic Origin of Muroidea." *Journal of Mammalogy*. [in press]

### **Presentations**

Giarla, T.C.: "A multigene phylogeny of *Thylamys* (Didelphimorphia) and its biogeographic implications." 10th International Mammalogical Conference, Mendoza, Argentina. August 2009. [Invited Speaker]

Giarla, T.C. *Contagion or compression? Predator effects on colonization in adjacent aquatic habitats*. Presented at HHMI Undergraduate Research Symposium, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006, Washington University, St. Louis.

### **Research and Laboratory Experience**

*Dissertation Research*, University of Minnesota (Spring 2008 – present)

- Advised by Dr. Sharon Jansa
- Developed a project on Malagasy phylogeography using preliminary data collected by Dr. Jansa
- Trained an undergraduate research assistant to perform basic laboratory tasks and data processing

*Researcher*, University of Minnesota (Fall 2007 – present)

- Developed and completed a project with Dr. Jansa on the biogeographic factors impacting diversity within rodents following the inclusion of a rare, basal taxon (Platacanthomyidae : Platacanthomyinae : *Typhlomys cinereus*) into the muroid phylogeny
- Prepared a manuscript for publication
- Assisted Dr. Jansa on family-level phylogeny of marsupials
- Amplified and assembled DNA sequence data; constructed phylogenies; ancestral state reconstruction

*Undergraduate Honors Thesis*, Washington University (Summer 2006 – Spring 2007)

- Directed by Dr. Jon Chase and Dr. James Vonesh
- Continuation of summer research on aquatic communities; additional data analysis and preparation for write-up and publication

*Howard Hughes Medical Institute Fellowship*, Tyson Research Center, Washington University (Summer 2006)

- Directed by Dr. James Vonesh
- Proposed and conducted an experiment on aquatic community ecology; results presented at a University-wide research symposium

*Research Intern*, Endocrinology Laboratory, St. Louis Zoo (Spring 2006)

- Directed by Dr. Joan Bauman
- Performed radioimmunoassays on serum, urine and feces for gonadal and adrenal steroids in breeding animals

*Undergraduate Researcher*, Washington University in St. Louis (Fall 2005 - Spring 2006)

- Directed by Dr. James Vonesh
- Assisted with a project on phenotypic plasticity in tree frogs and a meta-analysis on the same subject; prepared a grant proposal for summer research

### **Community Outreach and Volunteer Work**

*Vice-President*, Teaching SMART, University of Minnesota and Bell Museum (Fall 2008 – present)

- Introduced local elementary school students to U of M scientists and the research
- Coordinated a semester curriculum with a specific focus on evolutionary biology and ecology

*Instructor*, St. Louis Zoo (Summer 2007)

- Educated day camp attendees about conservation issues and ecological principles

### **Mentoring**

Tracy Smelter, Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program, 2008

Tim Sosa, Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program, 2008

### **Memberships**

American Society of Mammalogists

Sigma Xi

Society for the Study of Evolution

Society of Systematic Biologists

### **Awards and Fellowships**

*Graduate School Fellowship*, University of Minnesota (Fall 2007 – Spring 2009)

*HHMI Summer Research Fellowship*, Washington University (Spring 2006)

*Dean's List*, Washington University (all undergraduate semesters)